Statement

Details of Hydro Power Projects on Alaknanda and its Tributaries

Sl. No.	Name of Project	River/Tributary	Installed Capacity (MW)
1.	Alaknanda	Alaknanda	3 × 100 = 300
2.	Vishnupryag	-do-	4 × 100 = 400
3.	Vishnugad Pipalkoti	-do	4 × 111 = 444
4.	Srinagar	-do-	4 × 82.5 = 330
5.	Kotlibhel Stage-IB	-do-	4 × 80 = 320
6.	Lata Tapovan	Dhauliganga	3 × 57 = 171
7.	Tapovan Vishnugad	-do-	4 × 130 = 520
8.	Singoli Bhatwari	Mandakini	3 × 33 = 99

Contamination of water with arsenic

†2241. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that quantity of arsenic in water should be 10 particle per billion particles as per standards of World Health Organization but it is found to be 150 particles in Survey Report;

(b) whether havoc of arsenic has become most threatening in West Bengal where 20 lacs of people of 20 districts are forced to drink water contaminated with arsenic; and

(c) whether due to drinking arsenic polluted water, various diseases like cancer of intestine, kidney and urinary tract and gangrene are about to spurt out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) As per WHO Guidelines, the permissible limit of Arsenic in drinking water is 10 parts per billion (0.01 milligrams per litre) and as per the information received from All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health (AIIH&PH), Kolkata, presence of Arsenic in drinking water supplies have been noted at the level higher than permissible limit in certain areas.

(b) As per the information received from AIIH and PH, quoting Government of West Bengal, population of 166.54 Lakh in 79 Blocks of 8 Districts of West Bengal (Rural) are affected or at Risk and population of 103.94 Lakh in 79 Blocks of 8 Districts is being served with Arsenic safe water.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) As reported by AIIH and PH, the consumption of Arsenic contaminated water causes diseases and disorders which have various manifestations including skin cancer, cancer of vital organs and gangrene etc.

Drying up of rivers

†2242. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that forty per cent of the small rivers in the country are on the verge of drying up and some of them have already turned extinct;

(b) if so, whether Government is working on any effective plan to protect and restore the rivers, considered to be source of lives; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Analysis of available river flow data do not indicate that the small rivers are not the verge of drying up. Further, there are no information about small rivers becoming extinct.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Walson Water Project

†2243. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the work on Walson Water Project in Darjeeling; and

(b) whether the work on this project is expected to be completed within the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) As per information available in this Ministry, there is no Major or Medium irrigation project under execution with the name Walson in West Bengal. However, as informed by the Ministry of Urban Development there is one scheme namely Darjeeling Drinking Water Project of Balasan in West Bengal. An expenditure of Rs. 16.44 crore has been incurred on this project till 31.3.2008. The project is being executed by the State Government of West Bengal. As such, the completion of the project depends upon the Budget outlays provided by State Government and priority assigned by the Project Authorities for its execution.

Pay scales in N.P.C.C.

†2244. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.